

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. Apparatus for treating body tissue comprising:

(a) an elongated tubular body portion having a proximal end portion and a distal end portion;

5 (b) a first passageway extending through said tubular body portion between said proximal end and said distal end portion, said passageway having an open distal end;

10 (c) means for drawing a desired section of body tissue into contact with said open distal end of said first passageway so as to isolate said section of tissue;

15 (d) a second passageway extending through said tubular body portion between said proximal end and said distal end portion, said second passageway being in fluid communication with said first passageway sufficiently proximate to said distal end portion, whereby fluid may be introduced into said second passageway for contact with the tissue drawn into the open distal end of said first passageway and withdrawn through said first passageway.

20 2. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said drawing means comprises a suction device.

25 3. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein said suction device is a syringe.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said passageways are generally parallel.

30 5. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said passageways are coaxial.

6. The apparatus of Claim 5 wherein said first passageway has a larger diameter than said second passageway.

35 7. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said distal end of said second passageway is occluded.

8. A method for treating body tissue, said method comprising the steps of:

5 (a) providing a catheter having a proximal end portion, a distal end portion and first and second passageways extending between said proximal end and said distal end portion, said first passageway having an open distal end, and said first and second passageways being in flow communication with each other proximate to said distal end portion;

10 (b) placing the distal end of said first passageway over a desired section of tissue;

(c) drawing the desired section of said tissue into contact with open distal end of said first passageway so as to isolate said desired section of tissue;

15 (d) communicating a tissue treatment fluid into said second passageway through said proximal end for treating the desired section of tissue at said distal end portion;

(e) removing said tissue treatment fluid through said first passageway.

20 9. The method of Claim 8 wherein said step of drawing the desired section of said tissue into contact with said open distal end comprises applying a suction force through the first passageway.

25 10. The method of Claim 9 wherein said suction force is provided by a syringe.

30 11. The method of Claim 8 wherein said tissue treatment fluid is directed from said second passageway to said first passageway so as to contact said desired section of tissue.

35 12. The method of Claim 8 wherein said first and second passageways are parallel.

13. The method of Claim 8 wherein said first and second passageway are coaxial.

14. An apparatus for positioning a medical device within the heart comprising:

(a) an elongated tubular body portion having a proximal end and a distal end portion;

5 (b) a passageway extending through said tubular body portion between said proximal end and said distal end portion, said passageway being open at said distal end portion;

10 (c) means associated with said tubular body portion for retaining said distal end portion at a desired location of said heart;

15 (d) a medical device disposed within said passageway, said device suitable for contacting the heart at said desired location through said open distal end portion of said passageway.

15. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein said retaining means comprises a barb located at said distal end portion.

20 16. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein said retaining means comprises a threaded connector adapted for shallow penetration said heart tissue.

25 17. The apparatus of Claim 14 including another passageway.

30 18. The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein said retaining means comprises a suction force applied through said other passageway.

19. The apparatus of Claim 18 wherein said suction force is provided by a syringe.

35 20. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein said distal end portion has a distal end tip, said passageway being open at a location spaced from said distal end tip.

21. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein said medical device is a catheter for treating heart tissue.

5 22. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein said medical device comprises a mapping catheter.

23. A method for positioning a medical device within the heart, said method comprising the steps of:

10 (a) providing a catheter having a proximal end portion, a distal end portion and at least one passageway extending between said proximal end and said distal end portion, said passageway being open at said distal end portion;

15 (b) locating said distal end portion of said catheter at a selected position within the heart;

(c) securing said distal end portion to heart tissue at the selected position;

20 (d) introducing a medical device into said passageway through said proximal end for contacting a desired section of heart tissue through said open distal end portion of said passageway.

25 24. The method of Claim 23 wherein said distal end portion is secured to said tissue by means of at least one barb located at said distal end portion of said catheter.

30 25. The method of Claim 23 wherein said distal end portion is secured to said tissue by means of a threaded connector located at said distal end portion of said catheter.

26. The method of Claim 23 wherein said distal end portion is secured to said tissue by means of applying a suction force through a second passageway.

35 27. The method of Claim 26 wherein said suction force is supplied by a syringe.

28. The method of Claim 23 wherein said medical device is a catheter for treating heart tissue.

5 29. The method of Claim 23 wherein said medical device is a mapping catheter.

30. The method of Claim 23 wherein said passageway is open at a location spaced from said distal end portion.

10 31. The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein said retaining means are attached to a controlling wire disposed within said other passageway.